

Parks Advisory Committee
August 26, 2009
6:30 PM
Minutes

Call to order: Mr. Deeds called the meeting to order at 6:33pm

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Card	Parker	Boumis	Strayer
	Luehrs	Baltzer	Bumpus	Toledo
	Ebert	Deeds	Mershon	

Dr. Bender joined at 6:55pm

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Boumis moved to approve the minutes of the July 22nd, 2009 meeting. Mr. Card seconded the motion. Mrs. Mershon abstained. Motion passed with ayes.

New Items for Discussion

09-09 Open Land Available in Area

- The old Wendy's lot... is it available for use as tennis courts? It was discussed whether there is existing construction or parking lots that could be used for tennis courts instead of starting from scratch to save money.
- 7 ½ acres along East Waterloo. Mayor Ebert stated that it was very expensive... about \$95,000 an acre.
- Mr. Toledo suggested that the tennis courts go into Westchester Park. There is ample space and it is a great location that people could walk to.
- Mr. Baltzer suggested the pond by the Alspach's property. Ms. Mershon stated that it is contaminated, though it could go on the list as a different type of parkland.
- The area across the street from the pool, Duckworth property, would be a good area to move the basketball courts to and be able to expand the play area within Guiler Park. Mr. Strayer stated the land costs approx. \$275,000 for a little over an acre.
- Mr. Luehrs suggested a passive park within the stream corridor between the high school and the Old Town Tavern. Mayor Ebert stated that they tried to purchase that 89 acres last year and found out that it is tied up in an estate. Mr. Luehrs passed around pictures of the area. It would be a perfect spot for a multi-purpose use.
- Mr. Luehrs also suggested the retention pond behind Home Depot, but it is where Winchester Blvd is going to go through to hook up with the Bixby Interchange.
- Mr. Bumpus asked about the Environmentally Sensitive Areas map that Mr. Miller and how that may be incorporated into this search for open space and potential park area. Mr. Strayer stated that it will be eventually incorporated into the Community plan and Council will approve it at that time. Discussion ensued.

09-10 Homework – List of Goals and Prioritization

Each Committee member listed their top three priorities for goals in the Village park system. Some of the ideas that were presented are as follows...

- Tennis Courts
- Acquiring park land / multi-use land
- Recreation for all ages / land for adult recreation
- Increasing the number of interconnected pathways
- New Community / Government center
- Create permanent Parks Advisory Committee
- Increased Funding identification
- Updating Park Master Plan so that it looks 5-20 years into the future
- Increase number of passive parks
- Improving existing parks
- Dog Parks
- More neighborhood parks / gathering areas / pocket parks
- Regional plan for parks – look at the bigger picture
- Large multi-use park with recreation for all ages
- Define and integrate “parks” and “recreation”

Committee members were given three votes and were told to place their votes for items on this list of goals. Results showed that adult recreation and funding identification were the top vote-getters. Land acquisition and tennis courts were close behind; then, pathways and improving and updating parks. Discussion ensued regarding who should be assigned the responsibility for these goals and evolved into a discussion about the number and ages of participants involved in different recreation activities and what those activities may be.

Land acquisition can come from either the Village or CWJRD, depending on the usage of the land. Tennis courts should be a combined effort between the Village and the schools. Pathways can incorporate many different entities, from the Village to the schools to even private residents. Improvement of existing parks should be done by the Village. An audit could be done by Mr. Peoples and Mr. Strayer to see what improvements are needed. Updating the master plan, the regional plan and dog parks fall under Village responsibilities. Mr. Strayer will put together the information gathered at this meeting and share it with the group at the next meeting.

Ms. Boumis brought forward an example that she put together of a survey that could be sent out. It was passed out... see attached. She stated that it could be dispersed to the public in many ways. It could be on-line; it could be mailed out in the water bills, passed out to kids at school, available at the information booth at the Labor Day festival, etc.

Ms. Boumis requested that committee members look over the survey and get back to her quickly with feed-back so that the final version would be ready for dispersal by the end of August.

Other Business:

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm